

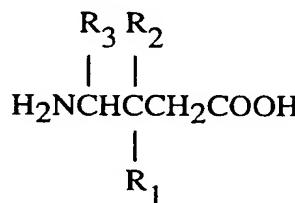
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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating pain comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Formula I

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I

10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, diastereomer, or enantiomer thereof wherein

R_1 is a straight or branched alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, phenyl, or cycloalkyl of from 3 to 6 carbon atoms;

R_2 is hydrogen or methyl; and

15 R_3 is hydrogen, methyl, or carboxyl to a mammal in need of said treatment.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the compound administered is a compound of Formula I wherein R_3 and R_2 are hydrogen, and R_1 is $-(\text{CH}_2)_0-2-\text{i C}_4\text{H}_9$ as an (R), (S), or (R,S) isomer.

20 3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the compound administered is named (S)-3-(aminomethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid and 3-aminomethyl-5-methyl-hexanoic acid.

4. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is inflammatory pain.

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5. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is neuropathic pain.
6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is cancer pain.
7. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is postoperative pain.
8. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is phantom limb pain.
9. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is burn pain.
10. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is gout pain.
- 10 11. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is osteoarthritic pain.
12. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is trigeminal neuralgia pain.
13. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is acute herpetic and postherpetic pain.
- 15 14. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is causalgia pain.
15. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the pain treated is idiopathic pain.